Please amend claim 7 as follows:

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7. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a composition comprising 100 parts by weight of a refractory metal, 2 to 10 parts by weight of powdery aluminum nitride and 2 to 9 parts by weight of an organic vehicle is used as the conductive paste.

Please add new claims 9-14 as follows:

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9. The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein through-holes for dummy via hole formation are formed in a scrap zone within the sintered aluminum nitride.

10. The process as claimed in claim 3, wherein through-holes for dummy via hole formation are formed in a scrap zone within the sintered aluminum nitride.

11. The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein through-holes for dummy via hole formation are formed in a scrap zone within the sintered aluminum nitride.

12. The process as claimed in claim 9, wherein, after the firing, the scrap zone is cut off from the sintered aluminum nitride.

13. The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein a composition comprising 100 parts by weight of a refractory metal, 2 to 10 parts by weight of powdery aluminum nitride and 2 to 9 parts by weight of an organic vehicle is used as the conductive paste.

14. The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the aluminum nitride molding, after the filling of the through-holes for via hole formation and through-holes for dummy via hole formation with the conductive paste, is dewaxed so that the aluminum nitride molding exhibits an internal residual carbon ratio of 800 to 3000 ppm, then fired at 1200 to 1700°C and further fired at 1800 to 1950°C.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the section heading beginning at page 51, line 1 with the following section heading: